

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director.

FROM : Legislative Liaison Officer.

SUBJECT: State Department Comments on CIA Legislation.

DATE: 30 December 1948.

1. Mr. Fisher Howe, of the State Department Intelligence staff, called me this afternoon regarding that section of our legislation which provides the power of the Director to issue 100 visas a year in the interests of intelligence. The Department's comments have been requested by the Bureau of the Budget.

2. Mr. Howe was concerned that the interests of the Department of State would not be properly served unless the Secretary of State was included in the authority, along with the Director and the Attorney General, and that the Department's interests would be best served by the Secretary's inclusion.

3. I informed Mr. Howe that the Director had had an informal concurrence in ~~this~~ language from Mr. Lovett, and that in the interests of the legislation I would be personally opposed to the inclusion of any other people in the section with authority to concur in the issuance of each visa. I pointed out that speed was necessary, and that I thought the addition of other people to the section would increase the difficulty of securing clearance from the Committee and the Congress.

4. I urged Mr. Howe most strongly not to recommend that the Secretary of State be included in this section, but emphasized that this was my personal feeling in the matter, and that I was not speaking for the Director in this instance.

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Walter L. Pforzheimer  
Legislative Liaison Officer